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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Rivin

Serial No.: 10/073,399

Group No.: 3683

Filed: February 11, 2002

Examiner: D. Butler

For: NONLINEAR AND ADJUSTABLE BUSHINGS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

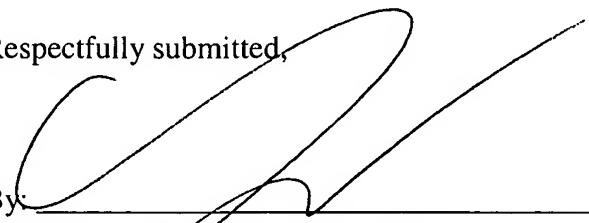
Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the request for species election mailed February 1, 2005, Applicant elects Species C, Figures 10-11 with traverse on the grounds that Species D (Figure 12) should be included in the election. Species C is directed to preloading in the form of actuators for adjusting the level of compression, and the invention of Species D simply adds that the "shoe" includes a plurality of segments, each adjustable through a separate actuator. Accordingly, it is felt that the invention of claim 20 is not patentably distinct over Species C.

Applicant contends that all pending claims are readable upon the election, since generic claim 15 includes elements preloaded through compression, which is readable on Species C and D. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's renumbering of the claims with respect to the typographical error.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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